SIERRA CLUB
YODELER

VOL. XII June 5, 1950 Number 11

WATER POLICIES TO BE DISCUSSED

One of a series of five meetings being held throughout the United States by the President's Water Resources Policy Commission is scheduled for the San Francisco Bay region on June 23 and 24. The meetings on both days will be held in California Hall on the campus of the University of California, beginning at 10 a.m.

In announcing the meetings Chairman Morris L. Cooke has said: "The area conferences will be informal, with a view to developing . . . constructive suggestions on which sound national water policy can be based." Subsequent communications make clear that the Commission hopes to hear from individuals and from representatives of citizen groups, rather than from the governmental agencies whose views have already been put on file in Washington.

The questions on which discussion is invited include not only erosion control, pollution problems, and municipal water supplies, but also the desirable extent of federal participation in major water-resources programs and "adequate consideration of all purposes which water resources can serve, including recreation and fish and wild life."

This conference offers to California conservationists an unparalleled opportunity to enter their pleas for balance in water programs - a balance that has been lacking in too many past programs and must be included in the near future if our valued recreational resources are not to be sacrificed to the increasingly urgent cries for water - and power. Just as urban planning includes garden and park spaces, so should national planning recognize the need for a reasonable proportion of undisturbed natural lands - the wilderness areas of our parks and forests, now increasingly threatened by such projects as Glacier (cont. on page 2)

SUGGESTIONS, RESERVATIONS REQUESTED FOR FWOC CONVENTION

The committee planning the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs convention would like your reservations as early as possible for this important affair.

Cy Washburn, committee chairman, states that President Harry James of the Federation will have some of the "Conservation Brass" on tap as well as President Lewis Clark of the Sierra Club and his board.

The convention begins with lunch Saturday September 2 at Clair Tappaan Lodge and lasts through lunch Monday, the 4th. The cost will be $8.00 per person for all meals and lodging. Swimming, hiking, entertainment are being planned for you but your suggestions are invited by the committee.

Send your reservations to the Sierra Club Office.

HUNT THE THERMOMETER

Members going over Army Pass or climbing Mt. Langley this summer are requested to read, pick up and mail to the Sierra Club office a maximum-minimum thermometer left on the mountain last summer for scientific purposes. The thermometer will be found at the base of two tall slabs of rock (in the shape of a V) at the southwest corner of the summit plateau.

Finder will please record his find in the summit register so that others will not continue the search.

Our bet is that the lowest temperature recorded will be - 32°. Anyone want to go me one better? --Oliver Kehrlein



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Next Deadline:
Monday, June 19, 1950, 6 PM

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Water Policies (cont. from page 1)

View Dam, or power developments in Kings Canyon Park.

We need water and we need electric power, but we also need wilderness. Under a program that recognizes all needs, it should be possible to utilize for one purpose without destroying for another. Our voices at this conference should plead for a program that will not sacrifice a large proportion of our remaining wilderness resource for a minute increment in our water and power resources.

Will you be heard at the conference? Or will you write a statement to be read for you at the conference? Statements enclosed with notes to the Sierra Club office will be transmitted to the Chairman. --CEM

* * * *

FOUND at Clair Tappaan Lodge: woman's Cameron wristwatch, gold case, black cord band. Now at Sierra Club office.

FOUND at Everett Junior High School after the Outing Preview program: a pair of white gloves. Call Polly Dyer, LAndscape 5-7601.

A REMINDER: Just one more Yodeler before our (and your) summer vacation. The issue of June 19 will be the last one--until August 28! If you want us to publicize any summer events, get the copy to us by June 19--this is the last call.

YODELEARS HEAR--

--of the arrival of Barbara Anne Brower, first daughter of Anne and Dave Brower, on May 19. She's well acquainted with her two brothers by now.

--that Betty Working and Ward Swift were married recently and are living in Berkeley.

--that the birth of John Charles Ruskin makes Oliver Kehrlein the only great-grandfather on the Sierra Club Board of Directors.

--from Bob Ramstad: "If any of you know of any vacancies in the Western national parks, we will be very willing to transfer! We are serious about it; this is no place for a Californian here on the Natchez Trace Parkway." Bob's address is Box 232, Waynesboro, Tennessee.

--that Roy Spring would like his friends to know his new address: Ward N-6, V.A. Hospital, Long Beach.

--from Caroline and Ray Montrose, that they're making a round-the-world cruise on the "President Polk", returning late this summer.

--that Margarette Richardson won a prize (a fine sepia photograph) at the Point Lobos League party last week. $3000 was raised, but there's still $15,000 to go to insure the establishment of Carmel River Beach State Park.

--that in the latest issue of Pacific Discovery you'll find an article by Oliver Kehrlein on the new John Thomas Howell Glacier, discovered on last year's Base Camp. We're told it's 35 miles south of where any glaciation is known to have been found previously anywhere in the United States.

TCC LAUNCHES BIG MEMBERSHIP DRIVE

Tamalpais Conservation Club has offered a $10 prize (donated by a past president) to the person who first secures 25 new members for the organization.

Tell your prospects how the TCC keeps close check on all matters pertaining to Tamalpais and Marin County and how it cooperates with the member clubs; about the trail man it hires; and that the more members, the more trail work can be done.

Send applicants' names and addresses, with $1 dues each, to Esmond Milsner, 634-23rd Avenue, San Francisco 21. Be sure to include your name as sponsor.

CLIMBERS' CLAMBAKE

For once the gods who control rains and storms were with us, and held back the annual deluge which usually accompanies the rock climbers in Yosemite on Memorial Day.

The week end started off with a bang when, after the first day of climbing on Saturday, the mobs drifted back to Le Conte Lodge where Jean Broadwell and her entourage awaited with open arms and open larder.

Although word had gone out to all the climbers in the state that something special awaited them, little did they expect such a party--and little did Jean expect such an onslaught. Six climbing groups were represented: San Francisco Bay Chapter, Southern California Chapter, Mother Lode Chapter, San Diego Chapter, Stanford Alpine Club and U.C. Hiking Club. Jean took it all in her stride and her inexhaustible larder fed more than 75 people before the night was over--starting at 4:30, and ending around 10:00.

Finally peace reigned over the valley. Next day the climbers again made their way up the rocks. Thus it went, day and night, for four days. Don't they ever wear out?

All the climbers wish to thank Mrs. Broadwell and her daughter Jeannine for the fine time they provided. Sierra Club members should be sure to visit LeConte Memorial Lodge when they are in Yosemite. Mrs. Broadwell will be there all summer to welcome them (though she won't be expected to feed them!).

WELL LED

Last May 28 found Eleanor Shaw leading a happy, comfortable 24 from Mill Valley to Muir Beach, returning through Muir Woods and over the Ocean View Trail. We saw picturesque out-of-the-way farms, ancient redwoods; had peaceful walks through cool forests; and enjoyed the chance of a swim and suntan at the beach. Thistle, larkspur and lupine were some of the many wildflowers still in evidence. To make things a little different, a dog who had befriended a skunk added himself to our company until something better came along (another skunk, perhaps?--Ed.).

Many shades redder at 5:30 PM than at 9:00 AM, we arrived at Mill Valley with grateful thanks to our excellent leader.

--Ellen J. Cornish

NATURAL SCIENCE SECTION

Calendar

June 16--Milton Hildebrand will talk on Zoology and the balance of nature. Room 360, Mills Building, 7:30 PM.

Tide-Pool Life at Moss Beach

For Moss Beach, the weather on Sunday, May 7, may be rated as perfect, with bright, clear sunshine, the cool morning breeze not perceptible by afternoon - at least not on the sunbaked rocks in the sheltered coves. And there were those who purposely got their bathing suits wet! The morning, however, found us threading our way over the slippery rocks in search of the many varied forms of marine life. Among us we did, indeed, find many kinds - Phylum Porifera: sponges; Coelenterata: hydroids, the common giant green sea anemone, and smaller orange and red (one was budding) kinds, and a solitary coral; Platyhelminthes: ribbon worms; Bryozoans; Echinodermata: 6-and 5-rayed starfish, the common purple one with white "spots", a large rose one, and very small ones, a "sea bat", brittle stars as small as one inch in diameter; a large red sea-urchin and a smaller purple species with green spines intermixed, and a sea cucumber; Arthropoda: goose barnacles associated with mussels, acorn or volcano barnacles, hermit crabs galore in their stolen homes, a blue porcelain crab, a striped shore crab and others; Mollusca: at least five kinds of chitons including the giant chiton, also known as gum boot and giant sea cradle, limpets, key-hole limpets, young and large red abalones, white and red nudibranchs, and mussels. A colony of jelly-like tunicates, which are the most primitive group of chordates were seen and several fish, including blennies, clingfish and eel. Come out on our next beach trip and let Maxine and Paul Chenoweth, who are excellent guides, point them out to you.

Mrs. Scott's Movies of Birds

On Friday evening, May 19, Mrs. Scott showed us her movies of 38 kinds of birds and alpine chipmunks, golden mantle and Belding ground squirrels, a marmot, and Bambi, the fawn. Mrs. Scott's commentary, anticipating the movements of the animals, was apropos and amusing.

THREE DAYS ON THE NORTH FACE

Yet unclimbed is the North Face of Sentinel Rock. With each generation of climbers new attempts are made, and gradually the "high point" is inched up the 1500-foot wall. Until last fall Fritz Lippmann's 200 feet was the highest point reached. Then, fired by Alpine climbing, Al Steck sparked an attempt by Phil Bettler, Jim Wilson, Al and myself. A point 500 feet up the face was reached.

Since Memorial Day this year, the "highest yet" is the pedestal which is approximately half the total height of the face. Phil Bettler and I composed the party accomplishing this. Taking enough food and water for several days, we scrambled to the tree ledge where the serious work begins. After one 5th class lead, we began to pound in, hang from, pull out, cuss, and bless pitons. Every pitch from the first on required some pitons for direct aid.

Progress was rather slow since food and equipment had to be dragged up. A rock fall during the winter had removed several ledges and had made stumps of trees, which had been good belay points. We could still follow last fall's route, and by the first evening were ready to sleep atop a chockstone in a chimney. Before settling down for the night, we climbed the overhang immediately above, leaving a rope over it for next morning.

After a night of fair sleep, prusik slings were used up our rope, and, climbing an overhanging chimney and a tension traverse, we reached last fall's high point. From here on we were pioneers. The angle was very high, but there were cracks for pitons and feet. Many times the cracks were too large for pitons, so one would have to climb "free" until a piton crack could be found. After about 250 feet of this sort of climbing we reached the brush near the top of the pedestal as darkness closed in. Here we slept.

On the third morning we surveyed possible routes from the pedestal upward. The only possibility was pounding bolts up a 35-foot smooth face. Deciding that this was more than we had bargained for, we began the 800 foot rappel down. Descending to the valley took us the better part of the day. Once, when our rappel snagged on a rock, rather than climb 40 severe feet, we shortened our 300 foot rope. Heaving a sigh of relief, we coiled the ropes at the bottom, wondering who would be next on the "Face" and how long our point would be "highest yet."

--Bill Long

NORDEN NOTES

Sunny skies and 80° temperatures have melted the late season snow pack. The last of the skis have disappeared from the hallways and are gathering venerable coats of dust in the basement.

It takes a little longer to get to Peter Grubb by the time-honored method of placing one foot before the other, but the summertime growth of wild flowers, the smell of the trees, and the crunch of the pine needles are luring more and more club members there and beyond. The heavy spring snow has provided a profusion of water and made the Donner area exceptionally green and inviting this season.

Bob and Henry last week led the parade of inmates and guests in being the first to plunge into Lake Weef and they assure us it was not too cold. Their deathly winter pallor has long since been hidden away beneath rugged mountain suntans which make them hardly distinguishable from the local Truckee Indians.

Memorial Day week-end guests, after their strenuous outings, came back to CTL tired and hungry. Each evening, however, they could look forward to returning to some of the "chef's" most superb creations. The "pièce de résistance" at Saturday night's supper was succulent, crispy, fried chicken and dumplings finished off with strawberry shortcake and whipped cream. But we hear the best is yet to come; plans for Saturday night barbecues are now in the closing stages. The Lodge's tradition of regular dinner hikes (and breakfast hikes for the hardy) have been reinstituted this year as always.

Since this is "Be-Kind-To-Cook-Month" and in order that we may plan for you, we'd appreciate your dropping a card to the Lodge when you intend to come.

WANTED: a down bag (not mummy-style) for use on High Trip. Buy or rent. Call Roberta Colaw, 2250 Webster Street, San Francisco 15 (JO 7-9471).

TUESDAY DINNER EXTRA: After dinner at the Women's City Club on June 20, you're invited to the Cinema Club program on the same floor. The showing of color pictures will include Jim Barbour's slides of Havasu Canyon taken this year.

ON TO THE YOLLA BOLLY

With Hull Mountain and Barlow Flat behind them, the knapsackers now have their sights on the Yolla Bolly country.

Our destination lies in northeastern Mendocino National Forest and southern Trinity National Forest. It is high granite country, with fine meadows, forests, small lakes, small peaks and two large peaks--the North and South Yolla Bollys. South Yolla Bolly, the highest, is a lovely mountain; and it is in the vicinity of this that we shall be.

Read your schedule for detailed instructions about getting there and time of departure. (Week end of June 17-18.)

It is suggested that you bring waterproof shoes since there may still be snow in the area. Some sunburn cream will be a good idea, too. --Dick Monges

BASE CAMP TRIP TO ENCHANTED GORGE

During the second session of the Base Camp, a group of knapsackers plan to follow Disappearing Creek down the Enchanted Gorge and return by the equally spectacular Goddard Creek Canyon. These two parallel canyons, separated by dark Ragged Spur, have been gouged out by stream and glacial action from the contact fault between the granites and the deeply colored sedimentaries. President Lewis F. Clark (who has worked his way down the Enchanted Gorge twice) describes the colorings in the walls as "burnished bronze in places--in others, green, red and purplish black."

Disappearing Creek for long distances is hidden from eye and ear beneath extended fills of jumbled talus. In several places it runs through permanent ice tunnels and frequently forms high waterfalls, which in any other location would prove worthwhile attractions in their own right.

Those planning to traverse these two inaccessible canyons with the Base Campers should read the thrilling account of the trip by James Hutchison in the 1924 Sierra Club Bulletin. Reservations can still be made for both sessions of the Base Camp. --Oliver Kehrlein

WEST POINT INN - JUNE

10-11	Candace Tapscott	(day)	UN 3-4680
*17-18	Mina Woolverton- DUnlap 8-0476 or		TU 5-0514
*24-25	Naida Johnston	(eve)	DO 2-3571

SUPAI-LATIVE SCENERY

Having unburdened myself of this punny title, which had lain in my mind ever since the 1947 desert trip into the same region, I'll proceed to tell of a return visit this spring to wondrous Havasu Canyon, home of the Supai Indians, in Arizona.

During the last week in April, a thoroughly thrilled threesome - Connie Miller, my wife Alice and I - hiked down the spectacular Hualapai Canyon, while an Indian packer took our equipment and supplies to a choice campsite on Cataract Creek, that stream of turquoise water which gives the canyon so much of its beauty. With the brick-red walls and lush green of the cottonwoods and other deciduous trees, it forms a color combination that is excelled nowhere else we have ever been.

Not content with just meandering along, Cataract Creek plunges over four waterfalls in its nine-mile course before mingling with the muddy waters of the Colorado. We traced the river to its source above the trail junction and found it takes its rise as a full-fledged stream of almost unvarying volume from under the gravelly ground. A scramble up on the rim and a dehydrating hike to Beaver Point revealed new vistas of the canyon from 2000 feet above. In years to come the backed-up waters of Bridge Canyon Dam will be seen from this point, but Mooney, Havasu, Cataract and Panameda Falls, and the exquisite pools in between will be saved for the time being.

With the kind of weather we enjoyed, this trip is not too strenuous for the good hiker, although we rode out of the canyon on saddle animals. The only facilities at present are rooms to rent in the Indian village, but camping is so delightful that one should never shut himself up within four walls in such a paradise. We were fortunate also in our choice of campsites going to and from Arizona. In the pastel-colored Calico Mountains near Barstow we had a dry camp to ourselves; at Hualapai Hilltop we slept coolly but comfortably; at Lake Mead scores of humming birds sipped nectar at sundown from the oleanders above our heads; and just north of Bakersfield we occupied a Poso Creek campground we had read of in the Yodeler's contemporary, Southern Sierran.

Any one interested in Havasu Canyon may direct questions to me. -- Jim Barbour

PACKRAT CORNER

Big Sur to Barlow Flat

Barlow Flat, a delightful campground on the Big Sur River, found 23 knapsackers bedding down the week end of May 27, 28.

After a late start, we pulled up the Pine Ridge Trail into the Ventana Wild Area. From the trail a fine view of Double Ventana was had. After the "pull", the trail was a breeze, with the short trippers ending up on the long trip too.

On Sunday, quite a few wandered up to the narrows which stopped all except those who brought swim suits or maneuvered the makeshift raft left by fishermen. The gorge was 30 feet deep.

Around noon the overnighters from the Big Sur campground hiked in to join the knapsackers, at least those who had decided to remain at the campground.

This is a beautiful spot worth visiting if you missed it that week end.

Memories of Mendocino

From the point of view of a hiker-turned-packrat, the Hull Mountain trip on the week end of May 20-21 came up to all expectations. The leaders had promised snow underfoot, and in this respect we were not disappointed; but with a brilliant sun and cloudless blue sky overhead, who would complain? The going was a little difficult as the unaccustomed weight on inexperienced backs made the footing on soft, slippery snow more precarious than usual. After lunch the miles seemed somehow shorter, and by mid-afternoon we had reached the campsite in a spacious meadow, which only three weeks earlier had been under several feet of snow. A small stream trickled obligingly down the slope, providing the water supply, and an abundance of dry wood fed the fires for dinner and the evening campfire.

Next morning a few of the party with energy to burn announced their intention of making an ascent of Bald Mountain, some four miles away, while the rest, in their own good time and at varying speeds, took the homeward trail with lighter packs and the feeling that this experience was one that must be repeated ere too many weeks have passed.

Special thanks should go to leaders Wayne Zenger and Barbara Tilden, whose painstaking efforts in scouting the trip laid the groundwork for smooth execution of the crucial test.

--MS

FOR ~~WANT OF AN ARROW~~ THE HIKE WAS LOST (ALMOST)

The trip to Schneider Grove proved to be something a little out of the ordinary. Because of the absence of an arrow at a critical turn-off point, the hike was nearly lost. Bob Geisler and Hermann Horn spent considerable time in rounding up stray cars between Los Gatos and Santa Cruz and getting them into the Grove, but eventually this was accomplished.

The Grove though small proved to be very interesting and lovely. Ray Wood and Bob Geisler had planned a delightful trip, and it is to be regretted that some of their plans went haywire. If it be true that variety is the spice of life, then truly we had a taste of the spice. However, it is also said that all's well that ends well, and in this case all was well indeed.

We all welcomed the opportunity to meet with our fellow members from the Loma Prieta Chapter and to enjoy some fine scenery to boot.

--Dick Monges

SATURDAY'S HIKERS

Nineteen of us turned out to hike through Steep Ravine the morning of June 3. Here were found luscious green ferns as well as lovely wildflowers. Climbing the "ladder", we reached Pan Toll where a snack stop was made. The snack! -- Ice cream! Packed in dry ice on leader Hazel Eggett's back!

It was a merry and contented group that then took off on the Alpine Trail for Muir Woods. A stop for lunch was made before going up to Throckmorton Ridge, along the Sun Trail (which lived up to its name), following the Dipsea Trail and on to Mill Valley.

'Twas a lovely hike and a wonderful day.

--Pauline Praasterink

* * * * * *

RAE LAKES: A small group of Sierra Club members is packing into the Rae Lakes area, July 22 to 29. Can include another man, preferably a climbing enthusiast. Call Bill Colvig, TUxedo 5-9526.

EAST BAY REGIONAL PARKS: Lecture by Prof. Emanuel Fritz, "Life of the Forests" on Friday, June 16, 8 PM, Junior Field Museum, Tilden Regional Park. Admission free.